

JK

1963

M4A3

1895
copy 2

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Chap. JK¹⁹⁶³ Copyright No.

Shelf M4A3

1895
copy 2

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

JK 1963
.M4 A3
1895
copy 2

Copyrighted 1895,
By RICHARD L. GAY,
BOSTON, MASS.

R. W. H. M. 287/17
[ACTS OF 1895, CHAP. 502.]

AN ACT TO



Repeal the Act Relative to Political Committees and Caucuses

AND TO CONFER CERTAIN POWERS AND DUTIES UPON THE

Election Commissioners of the City of Boston.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. **Chapter five hundred and four** of the acts of the year **eighteen hundred and ninety-four** is hereby **repealed**.

Duties imposed upon election commissioners of Boston.

SECT. 2. The powers and duties which by law are vested in and imposed upon the mayor and aldermen, registrar of voters or city clerk of the city of Boston in respect to caucuses, shall, except as otherwise specially provided, be vested in and imposed upon the election commissioners of said city.

[ACTS OF 1895, CHAP. 489.]

AN ACT RELATIVE TO Political Committees and Caucuses.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows :

DEFINITION OF TERMS.

Name of act. SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the caucus act of eighteen hundred and ninety-five.

Terms defined. SECT. 2. Terms used in this act relating to caucuses shall have application as hereinafter set forth, unless other meaning is clearly apparent from the language or context, or from manifest intent.

The term "**political party**," shall apply to a political party which at the preceding annual state election polled for governor at least three per cent. of the entire vote cast in the state for that office.

The term "**elective office**," shall apply to candidates for any office to be voted for at a state or municipal election. The term "**caucus officers**," shall apply to wardens, clerks, inspectors, chairmen, secretaries and tellers, and when on duty, to additional officers specially elected, or elected to fill a vacancy and taking part in the conduct of caucuses.

The term "**caucus**," and "**political convention**," shall apply only to such as shall be called and held in pursuance of this act.

The term "**political committee**," shall apply only to such as shall be elected in pursuance of this act.

STATE COMMITTEE.

State committee to be chosen annually. Term of office. **SECT. 3.** Each political party shall annually elect a state committee who shall hold office for one year from the first day of January next following their election and until their successor shall have organized; said committee to

How constituted. consist of at least one member from each senatorial district, to be elected at the convention held for the nomination of a senator from said district to be voted for at the annual state election.

When organized. The members of the state committee shall, within thirty days from the beginning

Officers. of their term of office, meet and organize by the choice of a chairman, a secretary and a treasurer, and such other officers as they may decide to elect.

Organization to be filed, etc. The secretary of the state committee shall, within ten days of such organization, file with the secretary of the Commonwealth, and send to each city and town committee, a list of the members of the committee and of the officers hereinbefore named.

Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring in the office of chairman, secretary or treasurer in the committee shall be filled by the action of the committee, and a statement of any change so occurring shall, by the secretary, be filed as in the case of the officers first chosen.

WARD AND TOWN COMMITTEES.

Town and ward committees of not less than three shall be chosen annually. **SECT. 4.** Each political party shall, in every ward and town annually elect a committee to be called in the case of a town a town committee, and in the case of a ward a ward committee, which shall consist of not

Term of office. less than three persons, who shall hold office for one year from the first day of January next following their election and until their successors shall have organized, except that whenever a ward committee shall be elected between the first day of January and the first day of June, the members thereof shall hold office for one year from the first day of June next following their election.

CITY AND TOWN COMMITTEES.

City committee The members of the several ward com-
how constituted. mittees of a political party in a city shall constitute a committee to be called a city committee.

Committees Each town committee shall annually, on
when and how a date between the first day of January and
organized. the first day of March following, and each city committee shall, within thirty days from the beginning of their term of office, meet and organize by the choice of a chairman, a secretary and a treasurer, and such other officers as they may decide to elect.

When and with SECT. 5. The secretary of each city
whom list of and town committee shall, within ten days
members and after such organization, file with the secre-
organizations tary of the Commonwealth, with the clerk
of committees of the city or town, and with the secretary
shall be filed. of the state committee of the political party of which they are a portion, a list of the members of the committee and of the officers hereinbefore named.

Vacancies how Any vacancy occurring in the office of
filled and state- chairman, secretary or treasurer in a com-
ment of changes mittee shall be filled by the action of the
filed. committee, and a statement of any change so occurring shall be filed by the secretary as in the case of the officers first chosen.

Committees may make rules for their conduct and regulations for caucuses.

to call caucuses for the choice of delegates to political conventions may make rules and regulations relative to such caucuses, not inconsistent with the provisions of law.

Committees existing.

SECT. 6. Any state, city or town committee may make such rules and regulations for its conduct as are not inconsistent with the provisions of law. And any state, city or town committee authorized by this act takes effect shall be deemed to be organized under its provisions.

CAUCUSES.

To whom notices apply.

SECT. 7. All notices for holding caucuses shall apply to all members of the political party whose caucuses are to be held, and to them only.

Persons voting in caucus of one party cannot vote in that of another during same year.

No person having voted in the caucus of one political party shall be entitled to vote or take part in the caucus of another political party in the same calendar year.

Town and city committees may make regulations, to determine membership and to restrain others from taking part in a caucus.

Each town or city committee may make reasonable regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of law, to determine membership in the party, and to restrain others than those who are entitled to vote at the caucus from attendance thereat or taking part therein.

Independent voter not excluded.

But no political committee of any party shall deprive any voter from taking part in a caucus of said party on the ground that the voter had supported an independent candidate for political office.

Caucuses relating to state conventions to be held on one of two consecutive days.

SECT. 8. All caucuses (except for special elections) for choice of delegates to political conventions which nominate candidates to be voted for at the annual state election, and for the nomination of candidates to be voted for at the annual state election, shall be held throughout the Commonwealth on one of two consecutive days, designated by the state committee of the political party for which said caucuses are held; and all of said delegates shall be elected and all of said candidates shall be nominated at one caucus, except that caucuses held for choice of delegates to a representative district convention, or for nomination of candidates for the general court, may be called and held as hereinafter provided.

State committee shall designate dates 21 days before caucuses are to be held.

The chairman and secretary of the state committee of each political party shall at least twenty-one days before the date on which the caucuses are to be held forward

their designation of dates to the chairman and secretary of each city and town committee of their party, and they shall at the same time designate two other consecutive

May name other days for caucuses relative to candidates for general court.

days, which shall be at least seven days later than the designation above-provided, as dates on which caucuses may be held for choice of delegates to a representative district convention, or for nomination of candidates for the general court.

Special provisions relative to candidates for general court.

If at least twelve days prior to the earlier date any representative district committee shall notify the chairman and secretary of each town and ward committee of their party to said district to hold the caucus for choice of

delegates to said representative district convention or for the nomination of candidates for the general court on one of said latter dates such caucus shall be so held. .

No two parties shall hold caucus same day.

SECT. 9. No two political parties shall hold their caucuses on the same day.

Precedence given to party first filing copy of call.

The party first filing with the secretary of the Commonwealth the copy of the call as above provided shall be entitled to precedence on the days named.

Every caucus in a town or city to be called and held under election act of 1895.

SECT. 10. Every caucus of a political party in a town or city shall be called by a written or printed notice specifying that the same is to be held in accordance with the provisions of the caucus act of eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and the provisions thereof shall then apply to the conduct and proceedings of any such caucus, but nothing herein shall prevent the enforcement at such caucus of further regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of this act. .

Only candidates nominated at caucuses held as herein provided entitled to have names on the ballot, provided for in acts of 1893, Chap. 417.

Except as above provided, no caucus or meeting shall be entitled to nominate a candidate for a public office, whose name shall be placed on the ballots provided in accordance with the provisions of chapter four hundred and seventeen of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and ninety-three and acts in amendment thereof and in addition thereto, or shall be entitled to select delegates to a political convention for the nomination of a candidate, whose name shall be placed on the ballots so provided. .

Polling places shall be provided without expense in towns and cities.

SECT. 11. At least two weeks prior to the date on which a caucus is to be held the chairman or secretary of the city or town committee shall notify the board of

aldermen in a city or the selectmen in a town of the date selected for said caucus, and said aldermen or selectmen shall, at the expense of the city or town, provide polling places for said caucuses, and in case of a city, not less than one for each ward; and said aldermen or selectmen shall, at least ten days prior to the date of said caucus, notify said chairman or secretary as to the place so provided.

Notices of caucus shall be given by each town and city committee seven days prior to day of holding. **SECT. 12.** Notices of caucuses held under the provisions of this act shall be issued by each city and town committee not less than seven days prior to the day on which the caucuses are to be held.

Shall state place where, and day and hour when, to be held. They shall state the place where, and the day and hour when, the several caucuses are to be held.

How and where posted. Said notices shall be conspicuously placed or posted in at least five places on a line or lines of public travel, and, if practicable, in every post office within the city or town wherein the caucus is to be held, or shall be published at least twice in one or more local newspapers, if any.

Hour of calling not later than 8 P. M. The hour for calling the caucus shall not be later than eight o'clock in the evening.

CONDUCT OF CAUCUSES.

Temporary chairman. The notice for such caucus shall designate by name or office the person who shall call such caucus to order; and the person so designated shall call the caucus to order and preside until a chairman is chosen. In case however the person so designated is absent at the time appointed, any member of the ward or town committee present shall call the caucus to order, and preside until a chairman is chosen.

Organization first in order. The organization of the caucus by the choice of a chairman, secretary, and such other officers as the meeting may require, shall be the first business in order.

Any business that may properly come before the meeting shall next be transacted.

Ballot to be taken. SECT. 13. A ballot shall be taken for the choice of any candidate, delegate or member of a political committee, to be selected by such caucus, and the polls shall be kept open at least thirty minutes.

Polls shall be kept open thirty minutes.

Voting lists shall be used as check lists. In balloting the voting lists last published according to law, with such subsequent additions thereto as may be certified by the registrars of voters, shall be used as check lists.

Registrars to furnish voting lists. The registrars of voters in a city or town, whenever a caucus is called therein in accordance with the provisions of this act, shall, on request of the person designated in the notice thereof to call the caucus to order, furnish him for use in the caucus a certified copy of the voting lists of the town, or of the ward of the city, for which the caucus is to be held, as last published according to law, together with such names of voters as have been added thereto since such publication.

No person to vote, etc., whose name is not on list. No person shall be entitled to vote or to take part in such caucus whose name does not appear upon said list.

Plurality elects. SECT. 14. The person or persons receiving the highest number of votes in a caucus shall be deemed and declared to be elected or nominated.

In case of a tie vote for delegates to a convention. In case of a tie vote for delegates to a convention, or in case of a place being unfilled in a delegation, or in case of a

vacancy occasioned by inability or neglect of a delegate elected to attend a convention, such vacancies shall be filled only by vote of the remaining members of the delegation at a meeting duly called for the purpose. Such meeting shall choose a chairman and secretary, and the secretary shall notify the secretary of the convention of the action of the meeting so far as it relates to a vacancy.

In case of a tie vote for members of a town or ward committee, or caucus officers.

In case of a tie vote for members of a town or ward committee, or for caucus officers, the members duly elected shall fill the vacancy or vacancies.

In case of a tie when majority are not elected.

In case a majority of a delegation, or ward or town committee or caucus officers

In case of a tie vote for candidates for elective office.

are not elected, or in case of a tie vote for candidates for an elective office, the caucus shall at once proceed to another ballot, un-

less some one present entitled to vote objects; in case objection is made the caucus shall adjourn until the following or other subsequent day. The hour and place shall, if practicable, be the same as that named in the original call.

Certificates of election shall be sent to all delegates, etc., within five days after caucus is held.

SECT. 15. The presiding officer and secretary of each caucus shall within five week days thereafter deliver, send or cause to be sent to each delegate to a political convention and to each member of a political committee, a certificate of his

election, and to each candidate for an elective office a notice of his nomination.

Secretary of caucus shall keep ballots five days, also three months upon request of ten voters.

The secretary of each caucus shall safely keep all ballots cast thereat and all voting lists used therein for the period of five days. If before the expiration of said time he shall be requested in writing by ten voters entitled to vote in said caucus, he

shall safely keep said ballots and voting list for the period of three months thereafter, and shall produce the same if called for by any court of justice.

RECOUNT OF BALLOTS.

Notice of contest etc., to be made within three days. If within three week days of any caucus a person who has received votes thereat for nomination or election to any office, delegation or political committee shall serve upon the secretary of said caucus a statement in writing claiming an election or nomination, or shall declare in said statement an intention to contest the nomination or election of any other person, such secretary shall retain every envelope containing the ballots for such nomination or office until such claim is withdrawn or the contest for the nomination or election is finally determined by competent authority.

Chairman and secretary of caucus to recount ballots 24 hours after notice. The secretary of a caucus receiving the above notice shall immediately give notice in writing to the person or persons interested, and the chairman and secretary who served at the caucus at which the ballots were cast, shall, within twenty-four hours after the giving of said notice, proceed to recount said ballots and determine the questions raised, and such recount shall stand as the true result of the vote cast in such caucus.

Candidates or agent may be present. And each of such candidates may appear and be present during such recount, either in person or by an agent appointed by him in writing.

SPECIAL CAUCUSES.

Special caucuses. SECT. 16. Caucuses relative to a special election shall be held at such time and place and subject to such reasonable notice as the political

committee whose duty it is to provide for holding the same may determine.

By whom called. All calls for the same shall be issued by the chairman and secretary of said political committee.

PENALTIES, ETC.

Penalties.

SECT. 17. The penalties imposed by law upon officers and voters who violate the provisions of acts regulating state elections are hereby imposed upon officers and voters who violate the provisions of this act.

Supreme and superior court have full power to enforce.

The supreme judicial court and the superior court shall have full power at law or in equity to enforce the provisions of this act.

Inconsistent acts repealed.

SECT. 18. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

[Approved June 5, 1895.]

[ACTS OF 1895, CHAP. 507.]

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE HOLDING OF CAUCUSES In Certain Cities and Towns.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

DEFINITION OF TERMS.

Terms defined.

SECTION 1. Terms used in this act relating to caucuses shall have application as hereinafter set forth, unless other meaning is clearly apparent from the language or context, or from manifest intent.

The term "**political party**," shall apply to a political party which at the preceding annual state election polled for governor at least three per cent. of the entire vote cast in the state for that office.

The term "**nomination papers**," shall apply only to those used in connection with caucuses, as herein provided.

The term "**caucus officers**," shall apply to wardens, clerks and inspectors, and when on duty to additional officers specially elected, or elected to fill a vacancy and taking part in the conduct of caucuses.

The term "**elective office**," shall apply to candidates for any office to be voted for at a state or municipal election.

CAUCUSES.

(a.) Relating to State Elections.

Caucuses in Boston (and in cities and towns which have adopted this act) shall be held as herein provided.

SECT. 2. All caucuses of a political party in the city of Boston and in any city or town wherein a political party, prior to the passage of this act, accepted the provisions of chapter five hundred and four of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and ninety-four, for the choice of candidates to be voted for at a state election, for the choice of delegates to a political convention to nominate candidates to be voted for at a state election, for the choice of caucus officers, and for the choice of a political committee, shall be called and held as herein provided.

State Committee shall call all caucuses relating to state elections.

All caucuses held under the provisions of this act, except those that relate to a municipal or special election, shall be held at the call of the state committee of the political party whose caucuses are to be held, and the chairman and secretary of said state committee

shall, at least twenty-one days before the date on which the
Shall forward caucuses are to be held, forward a copy
copy of call 21 of the call to the chairman and secretary
days before date of each city and town committee of the
of caucus. party.

(b.) Relating to City and Town Elections.

**Caucuses relating
to city or town
elections shall
be held on same
day.**

SECT. 3. All caucuses of a political party in said cities and towns for the choice of candidates to be voted for at a city or town election, and for the choice of delegates to a convention to nominate candidates to be voted for at a city or town election, shall be held on the same day in each city and town, except such caucuses as relate to a special election: *provided, however,* that in said city or town caucuses

Exceptions.

for the choice of delegates to a convention to nominate candidates to be voted for by the city or town at large, may be held upon a different day from the other caucuses above mentioned.

**Caucuses for
choosing ward
committee.**

All caucuses for the choice of a ward committee shall be held on the same day, which may be the same as the day for holding caucuses for the choice of candidates to be voted for at a city election.

**City or town
committees shall
fix days and
issue calls.**

The city or town committee shall determine the days upon which all the caucuses mentioned in this section shall be held, and all calls for the same shall be issued by the chairman and secretary of the city or town committee.

(c.) Notices.

**No two parties
shall hold caucus
same day.**

No two political parties shall hold their caucuses on the same day. The party first filing with the *city or town clerk a copy of

*In Boston, election commissioners.

the call for a caucus shall be entitled to precedence on the day named.

First notice to be issued eighteen days before caucus.

SECT. 4. Notices of caucuses in said cities and towns, whether held at a call of the state committee or at the call of the city or town committee, shall be issued not less than eighteen days prior to the day on which the caucuses are to be held.

Shall state when and where nomination papers shall be filed.

They shall state the day when the several caucuses shall be held and the place at which nomination papers, as hereinafter provided, shall be filed, and the day and hour prior to which said nomination papers shall be filed.

Second notice to be issued seven days before caucus.

SECT. 5. At least seven days prior to the day named for a caucus as hereinbefore provided, the city or town committee shall issue a notice that such caucus will be held, stating the place, the day and the hour of holding the same.

Hour not to be earlier than 2 P. M. nor later than 7.30 P. M.

The hour shall not be earlier than two o'clock in the afternoon, nor later than half past seven o'clock in the evening, as the city or town committee shall determine.

(d.) Preparation of Polling Places.

Polling places shall be provided at the expense of the city or town.

At least two weeks prior to the date on which a caucus is to be held the chairman or secretary of the city or town committee shall notify the *board of aldermen in a city or the selectmen in a town of such date, and the said *aldermen or selectmen shall, at least ten days prior to the date on which the caucus is to be held, notify the city or town committee of the places selected for holding the caucuses; and said *aldermen or selectmen shall, at the

*In Boston, election commissioners.

expense of the city or town, provide polling places, and
Booths, etc., in case of a city, not less than one for
shall in cities, each ward, and shall prepare the same with
be prepared as booths, registering ballot boxes, guard rails
for state and the like, in the same manner in which
elections. they are arranged for state elections.

(e.) Notices.

Notices to be All notices for caucuses in such cities or
published in local towns and all notices relative to the filing
newspapers. of nomination papers shall be published not
 less than twice in one or more local newspapers if there are
 any such newspaper in such cities or towns.

NOMINATION PAPERS.

City or town SECT. 6. It shall be the duty of the
clerk shall pre- city or town to provide, and for the *city or
pare nomination town clerk seasonably to prepare, for each
papers. political party, as herein provided, blank
 nomination papers for use in the different wards of the city or
Papers shall state in the town, stating the place where, and
day, place and the day and hour prior to which, signed
time of filing. nomination papers must be filed.

Shall be delivered On the back of such papers shall be
to chairman or printed section seven to fourteen inclusive
secretary of of this act. Such papers shall, by the *city
political com- or town clerk, be delivered to the chairman
mittee only. or secretary of the political committee for whose use they have
 been prepared, and to such chairman or secretary only.

Nominations SECT. 7. Nominations by members of
shall be made by a political party of candidates for elective
nomination offices, for delegates to a convention, for
papers. caucus officers, and for a ward or town

*In Boston, election commissioners.

committee to be voted for at a caucus, shall be made by nomination papers, as hereinafter provided.

**Shall be signed
by five legal
voters.**

Such papers shall contain the signatures of not less than five legal voters of the ward or town in which the caucus is to be held.

**Members of the
party.**

Said voters shall be members of the political party whose caucus is to be held.

**Signers of papers
shall add resi-
dence.**

Every voter signing a nomination paper shall sign the same in person, and shall add to his signature the street and number, if any, of his residence.

**Number of
names limited.**

Nomination papers placing candidates in nomination shall not contain a larger number of names of candidates than there are persons to be elected. They may contain a less number.

**Information
relative to a
candidate for an
elective office
may be given.**

SECT. 8. In addition to the name of the candidate for an elective office there shall be given the street and number, if any, of his residence, and there may be given his business or occupation, the public offices he has held, or any other information whereby his identity may be established, and his qualifications for the office to be filled, or his position on any public measure, indicated.

**In not exceeding
eight words.**

Any statement of this nature shall be embodied in not exceeding eight words.

**Residence of
caucus officers,
etc.**

Against the name of a candidate for caucus officer or for ward or town committee shall be given the street and number, if any, of his residence.

Personal preferences of candidates for delegates may be given.

In connection with names of persons proposed as delegates to a convention, any such statement may be made as that the persons named are favorable to, or are pledged to support, or to oppose, any person or persons for an office or offices to be filled, or are favorable to, or opposed to, any public measure, or are uncommitted.

In not exceeding eight words.

Such statements shall be embodied in not exceeding eight words.

Time of filing papers shall be endorsed on same.

SECT. 9. The chairman or secretary of the city or town committee shall endorse upon the nomination papers the time at which they are filed with him.

Papers shall be sealed and filed ten days previous to caucus.

All nomination papers shall be sealed up and filed in the office of the secretary of the city or town committee not less than ten days previous to the day on which the caucus is to be held for which the nominations are made.

They shall not be opened until the time fixed for their announcement.

Secretary of city committee to publicly open papers and announce nomination.

SECT. 10. At the expiration of the time named at which nomination papers are to be filed, the secretary of the city or town committee at his office shall cause such papers to be publicly opened, and the nominations therein made to be publicly announced.

In case of error.

SECT. 11. In case of any error, irregularity or informality in a nomination paper which has been duly filed with the secretary of the city or town committee, he may make or cause to be made any changes necessary to bring it within the requirements herein-

before mentioned. In default of such action he shall immediately notify the person filing the nomination paper, of such error, irregularity or informality, and the said voter may, within two week days of the time at which public announcement was made of the contents of nomination papers, make or cause to be made the change necessary to correct such error, irregularity or informality.

In case of non-receipt in a city. SECT. 12. In a city, in case of the non-receipt, as herein specified, of nomination papers placing persons in nomination for all the positions to be filled at the ensuing caucus, in accordance with the provisions hereinbefore given, the secretary of the city committee shall forthwith notify the chairman or secretary of the committee of any ward from which the requisite papers have not been filed. They or one of them shall forthwith call a meeting of said committee, who may nominate candidates for any and all offices for which nomination papers have not been filed, and in case they make a nomination they shall immediately thereafter notify the secretary of the city committee of such action by filing with him nomination papers similar to those hereinbefore described, signed in their official capacity, by all the members of the committee who assent to the nominations therein made. In case of disagreement two sets of such nomination papers may be filed. Said papers shall have the same force and authority as those containing the signatures of five voters of the ward, and shall be considered and treated the same in all respects. If at the expiration of two week days after the time at which nomination papers were opened proper nomination papers have not been filed for all the positions to be filled, or in case of any vacancy caused by death or otherwise, except withdrawals, the chairman and secretary of the city committee as a committee may exercise the nominating powers herein

vested in a ward committee, and nomination papers filed by them shall have the same force and authority as other nomination papers.

In case of non-receipt in a town. SECT. 13. In a town, in case of the non-receipt, as herein specified of nomination papers placing persons in nomination for all the positions to be filled at the ensuing caucus, in accordance with the provisions hereinbefore given, or in case of a vacancy caused by death or otherwise, except a withdrawal, the chairman or secretary of the town committee shall forthwith call a meeting of the said committee, who shall have all the powers relative to the nomination of candidates hereinbefore conferred upon a ward committee, a city committee, and the chairman and secretary of a city committee.

In case of withdrawal by person nominated. SECT. 14. If any person whose name has been presented on a nomination paper shall, within two week days of the published announcement thereof, file with the secretary of the city or town committee a written request for the withdrawal of his name, such request shall be complied with and the secretary of the city and town committee shall immediately notify the person filing the nomination paper of such withdrawal and the provisions of this section relating thereto; and the said person may, within twenty-four hours after the time at which said notice was sent from the secretary's office, present a new name on a paper signed by himself. Said new paper shall have the same force and authority as that originally presented. In case of the non-receipt of a new paper, as herein specified, the chairman and secretary of the city or town committee may fill the vacancy.

Papers shall be sent to city or town clerk. SECT. 15. Not less than seven week days prior to the day upon which the caucuses are to be held, the secretary of each

city or town committee shall place in the hands of the *city or town clerk the nomination papers filed with him in accordance with the provisions of this act.

To be filed before five P. M. last day of filing. All nomination papers which are by this act required to be filed with the city or town clerk shall be filed in the office of the *city or town clerk before five o'clock in the afternoon of the last day fixed by this act for the filing thereof.

PREPARATION AND FORM OF BALLOTS.

City shall provide ballots SECT. 16. The city or town shall provide and the *city or town clerk of such city or town shall prepare ballots to be used in caucuses, and such ballots shall be in accordance with the provisions of this act.

No others shall be used. No other ballots shall be received or counted in a caucus in said city or town held under the provisions of this act.

Certain words, etc., on front and back shall be printed. At the top of each ballot shall be printed the words "The official ballot of (here shall follow the party name of the committee)." On the back and outside, when folded, of each ballot shall be printed the words "Official ballot of the (here shall be inserted the party name) city [or town] committee," followed by the number of the ward or the name of the town for which the ballot is prepared, the date of the caucus and a fac-simile of the signature of the secretary of the party which has caused the ballot to be prepared.

City or town committee may determine number of ballots for each ward. The chairman and secretary of the city or town committee may determine the number of ballots to be furnished each ward or town, not to exceed one for each

*In Boston, election commissioners.

registered voter in said ward or town. In case of their failure to do so, the *city or town clerk shall determine the number.

Arrangement of names on ballot.

SECT. 17. Names of candidates for all elective offices shall be arranged alphabetically according to their surnames.

Candidates for delegates and for committees may be grouped.

Names of candidates for caucus officers, for ward or town committees and for delegates to conventions may be arranged in groups in the order in which they are filed.

Or alphabetically, by request.

But shall be arranged alphabetically according to their surnames whenever written request therefor is made to the secretary of

the city or town committee by any ward or town committee, or whenever the city or town committee shall vote so to do.

Residence of candidate, except for delegate, to be printed.

Against the name of a candidate for a caucus officer for an elective office or a ward or town committee shall be printed the street and number, if any, of his residence.

Information about candidates to be printed.

Against the name of a candidate for an elective office or a political convention shall be printed the statement which is contained

in the nomination paper placing the candidate in nomination.

Only names duly nominated to be printed.

SECT. 18. No names shall be printed on a ballot other than those which have been duly presented on nomination papers.

Blank spaces for writing in other names.

Immediately following the names of candidates blank spaces for the insertion in writing of other names equal to the num-

ber of persons to be chosen shall be provided.

Number to be voted for shall be stated.

Upon the ballot shall be stated the number of persons to be voted for for the different positions to be filled.

*In Boston, election commissioners.

A star (*) indicates a candidate for re-election.

A cross (X) against a name constitutes a vote.

If more names are marked than candidates, vote not to be counted.

Form and arrangement of ballots same as at state elections.

A star (*) against a name shall indicate that a person is a candidate for re-election.

A cross (X) marked against a name shall constitute a vote for the person so designated.

But if a voter marks a cross against more names than there are persons to be elected to an office, his vote for that office shall not be counted.

The form of ballots and the arrangement of printed matter thereon shall be in general that observed in ballots provided by the state at elections, except as herein otherwise provided.

DELIVERY OF BALLOTS, ETC.

City or town clerk to deliver all ballots and voting list at polling place.

the clerk, if both warden or clerk are absent then to any inspector who may be present, the sample ballots, together with the ballots hereinbefore provided for and the voting lists required by law to be used in caucuses.

Blanks, seals and record book shall be furnished.

The *city or town clerk shall also prepare at the expense of the city or town and deliver at the time and place aforesaid, suitable blank forms and apparatus for canvassing and counting the ballots and making the returns required by this act, a seal of suitable device for each polling place, and a record book.

*In Boston, election commissioners.

**Six fac-simile
copies of ballots
shall be posted
in polling place.**

It shall be the duty of the presiding officer of each polling place, at or prior to the hour of opening the caucus, to cause to be conspicuously posted or placed in such polling place not less than six fac-simile copies of the ballots to be used in the caucuses, such copies to be printed on tinted paper. They shall be kept so posted or placed during the whole time that balloting is in progress.

CONDUCT OF CAUCUSES.

Order of business.

SECT. 20. The order of business in caucuses shall be as follows:—

(1) Any necessary preliminary business that may properly come before the meeting shall first be transacted.

**Balloting shall
proceed till 8.30
P. M. unless
time is extended.**

(2) Thereafter balloting shall be allowed to proceed uninterruptedly until half past eight o'clock in the evening, when the polls shall be closed unless the caucus shall vote to keep them open until a later hour.

(3) At the conclusion of the balloting, any other business properly before the caucus shall be in order.

Proceedings when Vote is Challenged.

**In case right of
person to vote
is challenged
same proceeding
as at general
elections.**

SECT. 21. If at any caucus held under the provisions of this act the right of a person offering to vote is challenged for any cause recognized by law, the presiding officer shall require the name and residence of the person so offering to vote to be written by himself, or by some one in his behalf, on the outside of the ballot so offered, and the presiding officer shall add thereto the name of the person so challenging and the assigned

cause for which the challenge is made, before such ballot is received; but nothing in this section shall be construed as permitting officers in the caucus to receive any ballot which by law they are required to refuse.

No officer shall give information in regard to a ballot cast. No officer, otherwise than as above-required or permitted, and no person other than an officer of the caucus, shall make any statement or give any information in regard to a ballot cast by a voter so challenged at any such caucus, except as required by law.

COUNTING OF BALLOTS.

Ballots not to be counted till polls are closed. SECT. 22. Immediately after the polls are declared closed, but not before, the ballots shall be counted in full view of the voters.

In full view of voters.

Record of result to be made and sent to *city or town clerk. When the total result and counting of ballots has been ascertained the presiding officer shall make public announcement thereof in open meeting, and shall, in open

meeting, cause the clerk of the caucus to enter in words at length in the record book, provided for his use by the *city or town clerk, the total number of names checked on the voting list, the total number of ballots cast, the names of all persons voted for, the number of votes received for each person, and the title of the delegation or office for which he was proposed. Each clerk of a caucus shall forthwith make a copy of the record so made by him, certify and seal the same, and transmit the same with the record book to the *city or town clerk, as hereinafter provided.

*In Boston, election commissioners.

Before adjournment clerk to seal up all ballots, check lists, etc.

The clerk shall then, in the presence of those who are responsible for the count and before the adjournment of the caucus, seal up all ballots which have been cast, together with the check lists used in the caucus and a statement regarding any challenge which has been made.

Warden and clerk to make endorsements of certain facts on the sealed package.

The warden and clerk of the caucus shall endorse upon such package the name of the political party holding the caucus, for what delegations and candidatures and in what ward the ballots were cast, and the date of the caucus.

Warden to transmit to *city clerk the sealed package.

The warden shall forthwith transmit to the *city or town clerk, by the police officer or by some other legal officer stationed by said clerk in attendance at the caucus, all the ballots cast and the voting lists, the copy of the records, sealed as aforesaid, together with the record book of the clerk.

***City clerk to keep all sealed packages for three months, etc.**

*The city or town clerk shall safely keep such sealed packages for not less than three months, and shall produce the same if called for by any court, justice, tribunal or convention having jurisdiction of the same.

RECOUNT OF BALLOTS.

Request for recount must be filed within 24 hours.

SECT. 23. If, within the twenty-four hours next succeeding the day of any caucus held under the provisions of this act, ten or more qualified voters of any ward or town shall file with the city or town clerk a statement that they have reason to believe that the records and returns made by the caucus officers of such ward or town are erroneous, and

*In Boston, election commissioners.

shall specify wherein they deem them in error, in the city of Boston the city clerk shall forthwith transmit such statement

Ballot law commission or registrar of voters shall recount within two days. to the ballot law commission having jurisdiction in the premises, and in other cities and towns to the registrars of voters, together with the sealed package or packages containing all the ballots cast and

voting lists used at such caucus, and said ballot law commission or registrars of voters, as the case may be, shall within two days next succeeding the day of such caucus open said package or packages and recount said ballots and determine the question raised, and such recount shall stand as the true result of the vote cast in such caucus.

Candidate or agent may be present. And each candidate interested may appear and be present during such recount, either in person or by an agent appointed by him in writing.

Adoption by Political Parties in Cities and Towns of the Provisions of this Act.

Political parties in cities and towns may adopt this act. SECT. 24. In any city or town after the passage of this act the city or town committee of any political party shall, at the written request of fifty voters, members of said party, call a caucus or caucuses of said party for the purpose of voting upon the question whether the provisions of this act shall be adopted by said political party in said city or town.

Caucuses to accept it, how called. The notice of said caucus or caucuses shall state the day, the place and the hour, not earlier than six o'clock in the evening and not later than half past seven o'clock in the evening, of

holding said caucus or caucuses, and shall be issued at least **Seven days' notice.**

seven days prior to the day named for said caucus or caucuses, and shall be published not less than twice in one or more local newspapers, if there are any such newspapers in such cities or towns, and shall be posted in at least five public places in each ward or town.

Polls shall be open one hour.

The sense of said caucus or caucuses shall be taken by ballot and the polls shall be kept open at least one hour.

Majority required to adopt.

If adopted, all caucuses thereafter shall be conducted as provided for in Boston.

If said political party shall by a majority of the votes cast at said caucus or caucuses vote to adopt the provisions of this act, nomination papers, ballots and other apparatus required for caucuses so held shall be provided for said party at the expense of the city or town, and all caucuses of said political party in said city or town shall

thereafter be conducted according to the provisions of this act.

Acceptance may be revoked after one year.

SECT. 25. A political party of a city or town which has so accepted the provisions of this act may however at any other caucus or caucuses called for the purpose, upon notices given aforesaid, held not less than one year after the date of the caucus or caucuses whereat said acceptance is voted, revoke such action by the affirmative vote of a majority of the voters entitled to vote in such caucus or caucuses present and voting by ballot thereon. The polls at said caucus or caucuses shall be kept open at least one hour. Whenever a political party in a city or town shall vote to accept the provisions of this act or to revoke such acceptance the secretary of the city or town committee of such political party shall, within ten days of such action, file with the secretary of the Commonwealth

and with the clerk of the city or town and the secretary of the state committee of the political party so voting a notice of such action.

CAUCUS OFFICERS.

Names and number.

SECT. 26. In such city or town in each year at the caucus held in a ward or town for the choice of delegates to the state convention there shall be chosen one warden, one clerk, and at least five inspectors, and such additional inspectors in wards having more than five precincts as the city committee of the political party whose caucuses are to be held may each year determine.

Qualification.

They shall be qualified voters of the ward or town in which they are elected and members of the political party whose caucus is to be held.

Term of office.

Every caucus officer so elected shall hold office for the term of one year, beginning with the first day of October succeeding his election and until his successor is elected.

Duties same as required of election officers.

SECT. 27. The respective duties of caucus officers shall be in general the same as those required of election officers at elections, as provided in chapter four hundred and seventeen of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and ninety-three and all acts in amendment thereof. They shall, for the performance of their respective duties, attend in their respective wards or towns at the times and places duly designated for caucuses.

Additional officers to serve in one caucus only, may be elected.

SECT. 28. If at any caucus a majority of the caucus officers shall so vote, additional officers, to serve in that caucus only, may be elected by a majority vote of the caucus officers present and voting thereat,

and in case of the absence of any caucus officer the vacancy thus occurring shall be filled in the same manner.

Vacancy to be filled by remaining officers. In case of a vacancy in the number of caucus officers by death, declination of election, resignation, removal from the city or town, or otherwise, the vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of all the remaining caucus officers.

Removal from the ward or town shall not disqualify. A removal from the ward or town during the year for which an officer was elected shall not disqualify him from serving in the caucus of the ward or town wherein he was elected.

A candidate for an elective office or ward committee cannot serve as caucus officer. No person shall be eligible to the position of warden or clerk who is a member of a ward or town committee, and no person shall serve as a caucus officer at any caucus wherein he is a candidate for an elective office or for a nomination to an elective office, or candidate for ward or town committee.

Caucus officers for first caucus held after adoption of this act to be appointed. SECT. 29. A city or town committee of a political party which shall adopt the provisions of this act shall, not less than ten days prior to holding any caucus under its provisions, appoint such caucus officers as are hereinbefore provided for in each ward or town to serve at the first caucus to be held after the adoption of this act.

In case of a re-division of a city into wards. SECT. 30. In the case of a newly incorporated city, or in the case of a re-division of a city into wards, where a political party has adopted the provisions of this act, at the first caucus held in the next succeeding year, the caucus officers to serve in such caucuses shall be appointed by the

city committee, and at the aforesaid caucuses the regular caucus officers shall be chosen, as hereinbefore provided.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

Provisions of Chap. 417 acts 1893, as to conduct of elections, manner of voting, etc., to apply to caucuses held under this act.

SECT. 31. All caucuses held under the provisions of this act, except as is herein otherwise provided, shall be held in general accordance with the provisions relative to the conduct of elections and the manner of voting at elections contained in chapter four hundred and seventeen of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and ninety-three

and acts in amendment thereof.

Penalties.

SECT. 32. The penalties imposed by law upon officers and voters who violate the provisions of acts regulating state elections are hereby imposed upon officers and voters who violate the provisions of this act.

Supreme and superior court have full power to enforce.

The supreme judicial court and the superior court shall have full power at law or in equity to enforce the provisions of this act.

Inconsistent acts repealed.

SECT. 33. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

[Approved June 5, 1895.]

[ACTS OF 1894, CHAP. 271.]

AN ACT RELATIVE TO Sessions of Registrars of Voters.

Sections 37, 40, 49, and 56, Acts of 1893, Chap. 417, as Amended so as to Read:

Registrars of voters in cities except in Boston shall hold day and evening sessions, etc.

Every year continuous sessions from 12 M. to 10 P. M. on 20th day preceding state and city elections.

In Boston, day sessions, etc.

In each ward ten evening sessions of three hours each, between Sept. 2d, ending 20th day preceding state election.

SECTION 37. The registrars of voters, in every city, except the city of Boston, shall hold such day and such evening sessions as the city may by ordinance prescribe, and such other sessions as they shall themselves deem necessary; and they shall in every year hold a continuous session from twelve o'clock, noon, until ten o'clock in the evening on the twentieth day preceding the annual state election, and a like continuous session on the twentieth day preceding the annual city election in every such city. The registrars of voters in the city of Boston shall hold such day sessions as the said city may by ordinance prescribe, and such additional sessions as they shall themselves deem necessary; and they shall, in any event, hold in or near each ward in said city not less than ten evening sessions, each of at least three hours' duration, in the period beginning with the second day of September and ending with the twentieth day preceding the annual state election, and the same number of like ses-

sions in the period succeeding the annual state election and ending with the twentieth day preceding the annual city election in said city; and they shall hold at their principal office a continuous session, from nine o'clock in the morning until ten o'clock in the evening, on the twentieth day preceding the annual state election, and a like continuous session on the twentieth day preceding the annual city election in said city.

Same number after state election ending with 20th day preceding city election.

At principal office from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M. on 20th day preceding state and city elections.

SECT. 40. In every city registration shall cease at ten o'clock in the evening on the twentieth day preceding the annual state election, and shall be discontinued from that date until the election shall have been held; and registration shall likewise cease at ten o'clock in the evening on the twentieth day preceding the annual city election in such city, and be discontinued thenceforth until the election shall have been held. In every town registration shall cease at ten o'clock in the evening on the Saturday next but one preceding the annual state election, and be discontinued from that date until the election shall have been held; and registration shall likewise cease at ten o'clock in the evening on the Saturday next but one preceding the annual town meeting, and be discontinued thenceforth until the election shall have been held.

In every city, registration shall cease at 10 P. M. on 20th day preceding state elections.

The same before city election.

In every town, registration shall cease at 10 P. M. the Saturday next but one before state election.

The same before town meeting.

SECT. 56. The registrars of voters shall promptly transmit to the assessors of the city or town notice of every error which

Registrars shall send to assessors errors, etc.

they shall discover in the name or residence of a person assessed therein.

SECT. 6. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

[AMENDED ACTS 1894, CHAP. 291.]

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE QUALIFICATION OF VOTERS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Applicants for registration shall be examined when qualifications have not been determined within 4 years.

Unless prevented by physical disability or had right to vote May 1, 1857, shall be required to read, etc.

All registrars of voters to be furnished by the secretary of the Commonwealth with pasteboard slips with constitu-

SECTION 1. Section forty-eight of chapter four hundred and seventeen of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and ninety-three is hereby amended:—SECT. 48. If an applicant's qualifications have not been determined by the registrars within the four years next preceding his application, the registrar, in making the examination, shall examine the applicant under oath in regard to his qualifications, and shall, unless the applicant is prevented by physical disability from so doing, or unless he had the right to vote on the first day of May in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-seven, require him to read in such manner as to show that he is neither prompted nor reciting from memory. For the purpose of testing the ability of the applicant to read as required by this section, all registrars of voters shall be furnished by the secretary of the Commonwealth with the constitution of the Commonwealth, printed on uniform pasteboard slips, each containing

five lines of said constitution printed in double small pica type. The registrars of voters shall place said slips in a box to be provided by the secretary of the Commonwealth and so constructed as to conceal the same from view. Each person applying for registration shall be required to draw one of said slips from the box and read the five lines printed thereon, in full view of the registration officers. Each slip shall be returned to the box immediately after the test is finished, and the contents of the box shall be shaken up by a registration officer before another drawing is made. No person failing to read the slip thus drawn shall be registered as a voter. All registrars of voters shall keep in said box at all times a full number of said printed pasteboard slips. The secretary of the Commonwealth shall upon request furnish new slips to the registrars to replace those worn out or lost. The applicant shall also be required to write his name in a general register, as required by section forty-four of this act

tion printed thereon.

Applicants for registration to draw one slip from a box and read five lines printed thereon.

Slips to be returned and shaken up before used again.

Full number of slips to be kept in box, etc.

Secretary Commonwealth to furnish new ones.

Applicant also to write his name in book.

SECT. 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

[ACTS OF 1895, CHAP. 61.]

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

Be it enacted as follows :

Applicants to present certificate from assessors, tax bill, or notice of assessment as evidence of residence, etc.

Same to be received as evidence.

Persons not assessed May 1st to establish right, etc., must appear with two witnesses to prove right to be legally assessed from residence claimed.

SECTION 1. Every male applicant for registration shall present a certificate from the assessors, or a tax bill or notice from the collector of taxes, showing that he has been assessed as a resident of the city or town on the preceding first day of May, and the same shall be accepted by the registrars as prima facie evidence of such residence, or he shall present a certificate from the assessors that he has been a resident for the six months next preceding the election at which he claims the right to vote, and the same shall be accepted by the registrars as prima facie evidence of such residence. If a male person was a resident of the city or town on the first day of May, and was not assessed a poll tax by the assessors of said city or town on the first day of May, such person, in order to establish his right to be assessed, shall appear before the board of assessors, accompanied by two witnesses who shall testify under oath that they are registered voters of the ward or town in which he desires to be assessed, and who shall also testify under oath to the truth of the statement of the applicant in regard to his right to be assessed at the

place claimed by him as a legal residence on the first day of May.

SECTION 2. Every male person moving into a city or town subsequently to the first day of May, and claiming the right to vote at an election and desiring to be registered by the registrars of voters, shall appear before the board of assessors, accompanied by two witnesses who shall testify under oath that they are registered voters of the ward or town in which he desires to be registered, and who shall also testify under oath to the truth of the statement of the applicant in regard to his being a resident of the city or town for the six months next preceding the election at which he claims the right to vote. The assessors shall give the applicant a certificate stating that he has complied with the provisions of this section.

SECTION 3. The assessors shall, in a book provided for that purpose, enter the name and residence of each person thus assessed or certified, and also opposite each name the names, occupations and residences of the parties who have testified under oath as above provided. In every place where voters are registered, the registrars, and in every place where oaths are administered under this act, the assessors, shall post in a conspicuous place a copy of sections three hundred and fifteen and three hundred and sixteen of chapter four hundred and seventeen of the acts of the year eighteen

Evidence required of person moving into city subsequently to May 1st.

To enter names in a book with residence, etc.

Registrars and assessors shall post copy of sections 315 and 316 of Chap. 417, acts 1893.

hundred and ninety-three, printed on white paper with black ink, in type not less than one quarter of an inch wide.

Assessors shall hold day and evening sessions.

SECTION 4. The assessors shall hold such day and such evening sessions as shall be necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

[EXTRACT FROM CHAP. 275, ACTS OF 1895.]

RELATING TO

Distribution of Circulars and Printed Matter in the Vicinity of Polling Places.

In a city or town, on the day of any election of state or city officers, * * * no poster, card, handbill, placard, picture or circular, except a paster to be placed upon the official ballot, intended to influence the action of the voter, shall be posted, circulated or distributed in the polling place, in the building in which the polling place is located, or on the walls thereof, or on the premises on which the building stands, or on the sidewalk adjoining the premises where such election is being held. * * *

In elections of town officers in towns, for which ballots have by law been provided at the expense of the town, * * * no poster, card, handbill, placard, picture or circular, except a paster to be placed upon the official ballot, intended to influence the action of the voter, shall be posted, circulated or distributed in the polling place, in the building in which the polling place is located, or on the walls thereof, or on the premises on which the building stands, or on the sidewalk adjoining the premises where such election is being held. * * *

SECT. 2. Whoever violates the provisions of this act shall be punished by a fine not exceeding twenty dollars.

Approved April 12, 1895.

GENERAL INDEX.

	Page.
Act to Repeal the Act Relative to Political Committees and Caucuses, (Chap. 504, 1894), and to Confer Certain Powers upon Election Commissioners of Boston	1
Act Relative to Political Committees and Caucuses, "Caucus Act of 1895," Chap. 489	2
Act Relative to the Holding of Caucuses in Boston and Certain Cities and Towns, Chap. 507, 1895	12
special index to Chapters 489 and 507	39
Act Relative to Sessions of Registrars of Voters	32
special index to	51
Act Relative to the Qualification of Voters	34
special index to	52
Act Relative to the Registration of Voters	36
special index to	52
Act Relative to the Distribution of Circulars and Printed Matter in the Vicinity of Polling Places on Election Days	38
special index to	52

SPECIAL INDEX TO CHAPTERS 489 AND 507.

I.

Act Relative to Political Committees and Caucuses, Chap. 489	2
to be known and cited as "caucus act of 1895"	2
Adoption.	
of the provisions of chap. 507, as applied to Boston, etc.	27
proceedings for, and revocation of adoption	28
notice of, or revocation of, to be filed with secretary of Commonwealth, city and town clerk and secretary of state committee	29
Aldermen.	
powers and duties vested in the city of Boston in respect to caucuses, shall be invested in election commissioners	1
shall provide polling places	8, 15
shall notify political committees of places provided	8, 15
Ballot.	
shall be taken in all caucuses held under chap. 489, or "caucus act of 1895"	9

Ballots

Page.

used in Boston, etc., in accordance with chap. 507, to be furnished by the city or town	21
to be prepared by *city or town clerk	21
no other to be received and counted	21
to have an official heading, etc.	21
city or town committee may determine number of	21
city or town clerk to determine number when city committee fail	22
for elective offices to be arranged alphabetically	22
for delegates, committees and caucus officers in groups in order filed, or alphabetically by written request or vote	22
except for delegates, to have place of residence printed against names, against a name for an elective office, delegate, etc., statements, not exceeding eight words, contained in nomination papers, to be printed on	22
to contain only names presented on nomination papers	22
to have blank spaces for writing in names	22
to state number of persons to be voted for	22
having a star (*) against a name indicates candidate for re-election	23
having a cross (X) marked against a name constitutes a vote	23
having more names marked than persons to be voted for not to be counted	23
to be arranged, etc., like those used at state elections	23
six fac-simile copies of, to be printed on tinted paper and posted during balloting	24
to be delivered by *city or town clerk at the polling places	23
to be delivered to whom	23
not to be counted till polls are closed	25
to be counted in full view of voters	25
to be sealed up with check list, etc., and endorsed	25
to be kept, under chap. 489, by secretary of caucus five days, and for three months if requested by ten voters	10
to be recounted under chap. 489, when request is made by candidate within three days	11
to be kept, under chap 507, by city or town clerk three months, etc.	26
to be recounted under chap. 507, when request is made by ten voters,	26

Candidates.

to be nominated by plurality vote	9
to be voted for at a state election to be nominated at one caucus	6
for the general court may be nominated on a different day	6
to be voted for at a city or town election may be chosen at one caucus	14
in case of a tie vote for, another ballot to be taken at once unless some one objects	10
if objection is made caucus must adjourn till following or subsequent day	10
for elective office to receive notice of nomination	10
under provisions of chap. 507 in Boston, etc.	
nominations of, to be voted for at a caucus must be made by nomination papers	16
residence of, shall be placed on papers	17

*In Boston, election commissioners.

Candidates — continued.	Page.
information regarding, may be put on nomination paper	17
preferences of, may be placed on papers	18
how nominated in case papers are not filed or vacancy occurs . . .	19
may withdraw from nomination papers	20
information, etc., regarding, on nomination papers to be printed on ballots	22
names of, how arranged on ballots	22
Caucus.	
meaning of term as used in chap. 489 defined	2
Caucus Act of 1895	2
chap. 489, act 1895 shall be so known and cited	2
meaning of terms defined	2
Caucus Act, Chap. 507, Acts 1895.	
all caucuses in Boston and towns and cities adopting its provisions to to be held under it	13
meaning of terms used defined	12, 13
proceedings for adopting	27
proceedings for revocation of adoption	28
Caucuses.	
general provisions applying to all.	
notices apply only to members of party holding	5
persons voting in, of one party, cannot in those of another, same calendar year	5
regulations may be made restraining those not entitled, from taking part in or voting in	5
nothing shall prevent enforcement of further regulations in	7
voter supporting independent candidate not excluded from	5
special, called by political committees	11
relating to state elections, to have days for holding, designated by state committee	6
to be held throughout the state on one of two consecutive days . .	6
other days may be named for representative	6
no two political parties to hold, on same days	7
political party first filing to have precedence	7
notice of 21 days of call, to be sent by state committee to city and town committees	6, 14
plurality shall elect	9
Caucuses in cities and towns, (except Boston etc.)	
under the provisions of chap. 489	5
all to be called by a written or printed notice	7
notice shall specify, are to be held under the provisions of "caucus act of 1895"	7
further regulations may be enforced	7
except in Boston (under chap. 507) no caucus unless held under provisions of chap. 489 shall be entitled to nominate candidates whose names shall be placed on ballots to be used in state elections	7
notices of, to be given, 7 days before the day, etc.	8
to state place, where, and day and hour when to be held	8
shall be posted in public places	8

Caucuses in cities and towns, (except Boston, etc.) — continued.

	Page.
hour for calling not to be later than 8 P. M.	8
polls to be kept open 30 minutes	9
voting to be by ballot	9

Caucuses in Boston, etc.

under the provisions of chap. 507	13
all such to be called and held under provisions of chap. 507	13
for delegates to a convention to nominate candidates and for choice of candidates to be voted for at a city or town election, to be held on the same day except in case of ward committees and certain delegates	14
for delegates to a convention to nominate candidates to be voted for at large may be held on a different day	14
for choice of ward committee, day may be the same as for choice of candidates for municipal officers	14
city or town committee to determine days, place and hour of holding no two parties to hold on same day	14
party first filing copy of call with city or town committee, entitled to preference	14
first notice, giving date, to be issued eighteen days before time of holding	15
second notice, giving date, place and time, to be issued seven days before time of holding	15
hour of holding not to be earlier than 2 P.M. nor later than 7.30 P.M.	15
notices of, shall be published in one or more local papers	16

Caucuses, conduct of.

under chapter 489	8
to be called to order by person designated in the call.	8
in case of absence of person designated	8
temporary chairman to preside till permanent one is chosen	8
chairman, secretary, etc., to be first chosen	9
other business may be transacted	9
ballot to be taken for delegates, candidates, etc.	9
polls to be kept open for thirty minutes	9
voting list to be used	9
registrar of voters shall furnish list	9
no person to take part whose name is not on list	9
in case of tie votes	9, 10
in case majority of delegation, etc., are not elected	10
in case of no election may proceed at once to another ballot	10
if objection is made adjournment must be had to following or subsequent day	10
ballots to be kept by secretary five days	10
to be kept three months if requested by ten voters	10
certificates of election to be sent to delegates, etc., within five days.	10

Caucuses, conduct of, in Boston, etc.

under chap. 507	24
provisions of chap. 417, acts 1893, relative to conduct of elections, etc., apply to	31
any necessary preliminary business to be transacted first.	24
balloting to continue till 8.30 P. M.	24

Caucuses, conduct of, in Boston, etc. — continued.	Page.
time may be extended by vote	24
in case right of person to vote is challenged	24
no officer to give information in regard to any ballot cast by voter challenged	25
after the polls are closed other business in order	24
ballots not to be counted till polls are closed	25
ballots to be counted in full view of voters	25
presiding officer to make public announcement	25
record to be made of result of balloting	25
copy of record to be made	25
copy and record book to be sent to *city or town clerk	25
ballots shall be sealed with voting list, etc., by clerk	26
sealed package to be endorsed and sent to *city or town clerk	26
ballots to be kept by *city or town clerk three months	26

Caucus officers.

meaning of term defined	2, 13
name, number and qualifications of	29
members of ward committee ineligible for warden or clerk	29
cannot serve when candidate for elective office or ward committee	29
shall be elected annually at caucus for choice of delegates to state convention	29
term of office from Oct. 1st, etc.	29
duties of, same as those of election officers	29
shall attend at all caucuses	29
additional to serve in one caucus only may be elected	29
in case of a tie vote at election of	10
vacancies how filled	30
not to give information regarding challenged voters	25
removal from ward shall not disqualify	30
to be appointed for first caucus in year following new division of wards, etc.	30
penalties imposed upon, for violation of law	31

Challenged votes.

under chap. 507 how received	24
no information relative to be given	25
penalties for giving information	31

Check lists, see voting lists.

Cities.

to provide polling places, ballot boxes, etc.	8
if provisions of chap. 507 are adopted.	
to provide polling places fitted with booths, guard rail, etc., as at state elections	16
to provide ballots and fac-simile ballots	21, 24
to provide blank nomination papers	16
to provide record book, blanks, seal, etc.	23

City Clerk.

powers and duties of, in city of Boston in respect to caucuses vested in election commissioners	1
--	---

*In Boston, election commissioners.

***City Clerks.**

Page.

to receive list of members and officers of city committees with changes occurring	4
duties under provisions of chap. 507 applying to Boston, etc.	
copy of call for caucuses to be filed with	14
to prepare blank nomination papers	16
to deliver same to chairman or secretary of committees, and to them only	16
to have papers placed with them seven week days before caucus, to be placed before 5 P. M. of last day	20
to prepare ballots	21
to determine number of ballots when city committee fail to do so, to furnish six fac-simile ballots on tinted paper for each polling place	22
to deliver at polling places ballots and fac-simile ballots, etc. . .	24
to deliver ballots, etc., to warden if present	23
to prepare and deliver at polling places, blanks, a seal and record book	23
to receive sealed package of votes, etc., with record book, etc. .	25
to keep sealed package of votes, etc., 3 months	26
to produce the same when called for by court	26
to have filed with them requests for recount	26
to have filed with them, notice of adoption and revocation of adoption of provisions of chap. 507	29

City committees.

existing, to be deemed organized	5
the several ward committees of a city shall constitute	4
organizations of, when and how made	4
list of members and organization of, when and with whom to be filed	4
vacancies in offices of, filled by action of the committee	4
to be filed as in case of officers first chosen	4
to receive notice of members and officers of state committee	3
may make rules for its conduct	5
may make rules relative to caucuses	5
may make regulations to determine membership in the party and to restrain others from taking part in caucuses, etc.	5
but not to deprive an independent voter from taking part in a caucus, to receive from state committee copy of call of caucuses relative to state elections	6
to call all caucuses in cities	14
to give eighteen days notice of the day of holding caucuses	15
to give seven days notice of the place and hour of holding caucuses .	8, 15
to call special caucuses	11, 14
to publish notices of caucuses, etc., in local papers	8, 19

City and town committees.

in cities and towns other than Boston to call caucus for adoption of chap. 507	27
under chap. 507 applying to Boston, etc.	
duties of, in connection with nomination papers	16
to give notice of day and hour prior to which nominations shall be filed	15

*In Boston, election commissioners.

City and town committees — continued.	Page.
to appoint caucus officers for first caucus after adoption of chap. 507	30
to appoint caucus officers in first caucus in newly incorporated city and in first year after new division of wards	30
chairman and secretary of, special duties.	
shall receive notice of caucus call from state committee	6, 13
shall issue calls for regular and special caucuses	8, 12, 14
chairman or secretary of, special duties.	
shall notify in cities, *aldermen, in towns, selectmen, of date of caucuses	7, 15
shall receive notice from same of places provided for caucuses	8, 15
shall under chap. 507, endorse on nomination papers time of receipt	18
other duties, in connection with nomination papers	19, 20
secretary of, special duties.	
to file with secretary of Commonwealth and state committee and town and city clerk, list of members, officers and vacancies, in Boston, etc., under chap. 507	4, 18
to cause caucus nomination papers to be opened publicly	18
to cause such nominations to be announced publicly	18
may correct errors, irregularities, etc., in such papers	18
to notify first signer of such defective paper	19
to notify ward committee if caucus nomination papers are not filed to be notified of nominations by ward committee in such case	19
to send nomination papers to city clerk	20, 21
to have fac-simile of his signature on ballots	21
to file with secretary of commonwealth, and state committee and *city and town clerk notice of adoption or revocation of adoption of provisions of chap. 507	28
Clerks of caucuses. (In Boston, etc., under chap. 507.)	
how and when chosen	29
term of office	29
to be appointed in certain cases	30
duties similar to those of clerks at elections.	29
shall make record of the result of voting	25
shall make copy of the record	25
shall seal ballots and transmit same with records, etc., to city clerk, 25, 26	26
shall with warden endorse package containing votes, etc.	26
ineligible if member of ward or town committee	30
cannot serve when candidate for elective office or town or ward committee	30
(see caucus officers.)	29
Committees.	
(see state, city and town committees.)	
Credentials for delegates, etc.	
to be sent within five days	10
Definition of terms.	
in chapter. 489	2
to be known as the caucus act of 1895	2

*In Boston, election commissioners.

Definition of terms — continued.	Page.
political party, elective office, caucus officers, caucus, political convention and political committee	2
in chap. 507 applying to Boston, etc., and cities and towns adopting its provisions	12
political party, nomination papers, caucus officers and elective office	13
Delegates to conventions.	
plurality elects	9
in case of tie vote, to be chosen by other delegates	9
proceedings for filling such vacancies	10
in case of tie vote of a majority, another ballot to be taken at once unless some one objects	10
if some one objects to ballot, a caucus to be adjourned.	10
to nominate candidates to be voted for at a state election to be chosen at one caucus	6
to nominate candidates for representatives may be held on another day	6
to receive certificate of election within five days	10
to nominate candidates to be voted for at a city election	14
(see candidates.)	
Delegation to convention.	
may fill vacancy caused by failure to elect on account of tie	9
meeting for purpose, how called?	10
must organize with chairman and secretary	10
must notify secretary of convention of the action	10
Election commissioners of Boston.	
powers and duties vested in mayor, aldermen, registrars of voters and city clerks in respect to caucuses to be vested in	1
Elective office.	
meaning of term defined	2, 13
Inspectors.	
(see caucus officers)	29
Nomination papers (under provisions of chap. 507)	16
blanks to be provided by city or town	16
blanks to be prepared by *city or town clerk	16
blanks to have printed on them provisions of sections 4 to 16 . . .	16
to be delivered to chairman or secretary of political committee for whom prepared	16
to be delivered to them only	16
all nominations to be made on	16
to be signed by at least five voters of the party	17
to be signed by voter in person	17
not to contain more names than there are persons to be elected . .	17
may contain fewer names	17
to give residence of each signer	17
may contain certain information about candidate	17, 18
in not exceeding eight words	18
time of filing to be endorsed upon	18

*In Boston, election commissioners.

Nomination papers — continued.

Page.

to be filed in office of secretary of city or town committee ten days before caucus	18
to be sealed when filed	18
not to be opened until time for announcing nominations	18
to be publicly opened and publicly announced	18
errors, irregularities, etc., may be corrected by secretary of city or town committee	18
or by signer of paper	19
if none are filed in a city, ward committee to be notified	19
may be made by ward committee in such case	19
two sets of papers may be filed in such case, if ward committee disagrees	19
in case of non-receipt in a city	19
in case of non-receipt in a town	20
in case of vacancy by death or otherwise	19
in case of withdrawal by person nominated	20
to be filed finally with *city or town clerk	20
to be filed seven week days before time of holding caucus	20
to be filed before 5 P. M., on last day of filing	21
only names presented to be printed on a ballot	22

Notices.

relating to caucuses for state elections.	
21 days to be given by state committee of the date to city and town committees	6, 13
party first filing with secretary of Commonwealth entitled to precedence	7
18 days to be given by city and town committees of the date (under chap. 507).	15
7 days to be given by city and town committees of the date, place and time of caucus	8
under provisions of chap. 489 to be posted	8
to apply only to members of party holding caucus	5
under chap. 489 shall specify that call is under caucus act of '95.	7
and shall designate who shall call to order.	8
to be published in local papers	8, 16
to be posted conspicuously in certain places	8
for recount of ballots	11, 26
for special caucuses	11
relating to caucuses in Boston and cities and towns under chap. 507.	
first, to be issued by city or town committee 18 days before date	15
party first filing with *city or town clerk entitled to preference,	14
second, to be issued of date, place and time 7 days before	15
18 days to be given of date and place of filing nomination papers	15
to be published in papers	16
to be given to *aldermen and selectmen to prepare polling places.	7, 15
to be given by *aldermen and selectmen to city and town committees of place selected for caucuses	8, 15

Penalties.

for officers and voters same as in acts regulating state election	12, 31
supreme and superior courts have full power to enforce	12, 31

Plurality of votes cast.

shall be deemed to nominate or elect	9
--	---

*In Boston, election commissioners.

Political convention.	Page.
meaning of term as used in chap. 489 defined	2
delegates to, for state elections how and when chosen	6
delegates to, for city elections in Boston, etc., how and when chosen (see delegates to conventions).	14
Political committee.	
meaning of terms as used in chap. 489 defined	2
Political committees.	
(see state, city and town committees.)	
Political party.	
meaning of term defined	2, 13
shall annually elect a state committee	3
in a city, shall each year choose ward committees	3
in a town, shall each year choose a town committee	3
committees of, to consist of not less than three persons	3
regulations to determine membership may be made	5
no person can act in caucus of more than one	5
may adopt provisions of chap. 507	27
may reconsider such adoption	28
proceedings for such purpose	27, 28
(see state, city and town committee.)	
Polling places.	
*aldermen and selectmen to be notified to prepare	8, 15
to be provided at the expense of city or town	8, 15
to notify city and town committees of location.	8, 15
in city of Boston election commissioners to prepare and assign places	1
Record book.	
to be furnished by *city or town clerk, under chap. 507	23
to be delivered at the polling place	23
to be returned to the *city or town clerk	25
Records.	
of result of balloting, etc., to be made	25
copy of same to be made	25
all to be transmitted to *city or town clerk	25, 26
Recount of Ballots.	
in cities and towns under chap. 489	11
notice for, to be filed by candidates, etc., with secretary of caucus within three days	11
notice of, to be given in writing to persons interested	11
chairman and secretary of caucus to recount within twenty-four hours	11
candidate or his agent may be present	11
in Boston, etc., under chap. 507	26
notice for, to be filed by ten voters with city or town clerk, within twenty-four hours	26
ballot law commissioners in Boston to recount within two days	27
registrar of voters in other cities and towns	27
candidate or his agent may be present	27
Registrars of voters.	
in city of Boston, powers and duties in respect to caucuses vested in election commissioners	1

*In Boston, election commissioners.

	Page.
Registrars of voters — continued.	
to furnish last voting lists for caucuses held under caucus act of 1895, chap. 489	9
to recount ballots (except in Boston) in cities and towns holding cau- cuses under chap. 507	27
Representative caucuses.	
special provision relating thereto	6
Representative district committees.	
duties relative to representative conventions and caucuses	6
Rules and regulations.	
state, city and town committees may make	5
further than those provided for in chap. 489, may be enforced . . .	7
Secretary of caucus.	
under chap. 489.	
choice of, first business in order	9
to send certificate to delegates and nominees within five days . . .	10
to keep all ballots	10
with chairman shall recount ballots	11
Secretary of the Commonwealth.	
to receive notice from state political committee of call for caucus . .	7
to receive from state, city and town committees list of members, officers and vacancies occurring	3, 4
to receive from city and town committees notice of adoption or revocation of adoption of provisions of chap. 507	28
Selectmen of towns.	
to provide polling places for holding caucuses	7, 15
to notify committees of place selected for holding caucuses	8, 15
Special caucuses.	
shall be held as political committees may determine	11
chairman and secretary shall issue calls for	12
State committee,	
to be elected annually	3
how constituted, when elected, term of office, etc.	3
to be organized, when and how	3
vacancies how filled and filed	3
may make rules, etc., for their conduct, also relative to caucuses . .	5
to designate the dates of all caucuses pertaining to state elections. .	6
first filing copy of call with secretary of the commonwealth entitled to precedence	7
to forward copy of call to city and town committees, twenty-one days prior thereto	6
may designate other days for representative caucuses	6
existing at passage of act (chap. 489) deemed to be organized. . . .	5
chairman and secretary of, special duties.	
shall send call for caucuses relating to state elections to city or town committees	6, 13
shall designate dates when representative caucuses may be held, secretary of, special duties.	6
to receive notice of list of members and officers of city and town committees with vacancies occurring	3, 4
shall within ten days file with secretary of commonwealth, list of members, officers and vacancies occurring	3
shall send same list to city and town committees	3
to receive notice of adoption or revocation of adoption of provis- ions of chap. 507.	28

Tie vote.	Page.
if for delegates to a convention vacancy to be filled by remaining delegates	9
if for ward and town committee or caucus officers, vacancy filled by elected members	10
if for elective office, a majority of a delegation, etc., another ballot to be taken at once unless some one objects then at adjourned caucus	10
Towns.	
to provide polling places, ballot boxes, etc.	7
if provisions of chap. 507 are adopted.	
to provide polling places prepared with booths, etc. as at state elections	16
to provide ballots and fac-simile ballots	21, 24
to provide blank nomination papers	16
to provide record book, blanks, seal, etc.	23
Town committee.	
to be elected annually	3
to consist of not less than three persons	4
to hold office for one year	4
vacancies in, filled by action of committee	4
in case of tie vote at election of	10
in case of a tie vote for a majority of	10
to receive notice of membership of state committee	3
to organize by choice of chairman, secretary and treasurer	4
to file organization and any vacancies occurring	4
existing at the passage of act to be deemed to be organized	5
may make rules, etc., for their conduct	5
to call all caucuses in their towns	8, 15
to give notice, etc., of caucuses	8
to post notices on five lines of travel and in every postoffice	8
to make rules, etc., restraining parties not entitled to take part in caucuses from voting, therein, etc.	5
may make rules and regulations relative to caucuses	5
shall not deprive voter supporting independent candidate from voting, etc.	5
to receive copy of caucus call from state committee	6
to notify selectmen to provide polling places	7, 15
has power to take action relative to adoption of provisions of chap. 507	27
to appoint caucus officers for first caucus after adoption	30
(see city and town committee.)	
Town clerks.	
to receive lists of members and of town committees and vacancies occurring	3, 4
duties under chap. 507 when provisions of same are adopted	16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 29
to have filed with them notice of the adoption or revocation of the adoption of provisions of chap. 507	28
Vacancies.	
in officers of state, city and town committees how filled	3, 4
in caucus officers	30
caused by tie vote for delegates, to be filled by remaining delegates	10
caused by tie vote for members of town and ward committees and caucus officers to be filled by members elected	10
in list of nominees to be voted for in a caucus	20
(see nomination papers.)	

Voting lists.	Page.
to be used in balloting as check lists	9
to be furnished by *registrar of voters	9
persons whose names are not on, not entitled to vote in caucuses . .	9
to be sent to polling places by *city or town clerks	23
record to be made of names checked on	25
to be returned sealed up with ballots, etc., to *city or town clerks	26
to be kept for three months	26
to be used at a recount	27

Ward committees.	
to be chosen annually	3
to consist of not less than three members	3
term of office, if elected between Jan. 1 and June 1, one year from June 1	4
if elected between June 1 and Jan. 1, one year from Jan. 1	4
shall constitute a city committee	4
caucuses for choice of under chap. 507, to be held on same day . .	14
day may be same as for caucuses relating to a city election	14
to be notified if nomination papers have not been filed	20
to file nomination papers in certain cases	20
residence shall be given on nomination papers	17
also on ballots	22
names on ballots to be arranged in groups	22
may be alphabetically by request, etc.	22
member of, not eligible to position of warden and clerk	30
candidate for, cannot serve as a caucus officer	30

Warden.	
to cause fac-simile copies of ballots to be posted in polling places .	24
to make public announcement of result of ballots	25
to cause clerk to make record of same	25
with clerk of caucus, to notify delegates, officers-elect, etc.	10
duties to be similar to those of warden, at elections	29
with clerk of caucus, to endorse package containing votes, etc. . .	26
to transmit same to *city clerk by police or other officers	26
to accept challenged votes	24
cannot serve if candidate for an elective office or member of a ward or town committee	30
ineligible to the position, if member of a ward or town committee .	30
(see caucus officers.)	

II.

An Act relative to Sessions of Registrars of Voters	32
--	----

Registrars of voters.	
to hold sessions in cities, except Boston, day and evening, etc. . .	32
and from 12 to 10 P. M., on 20th day preceding state and city elec- tions	32
in Boston day, and in each ward between September 2d, ending 20th day preceding state election, after state election same number ending 20th day preceding city election; at principal office from 9 A. M. to 10 P. M., on 20th day preceding state and city elec- tions	32
shall send to assessors notice of any error, etc.	33

*In Boston, election commissioners.

Registration.	Page.
to cease in every city at 10 P. M. on the 20th day preceding state and city election	33
to cease in every town at 10 P. M. the Saturday next but one before state and town elections	33

III.

An Act relative to the Qualification of Voters	34
Applicants for registration.	
to be examined when qualifications have not been determined for four years	34
to be required to read unless physically disabled or had right to vote May 1, 1857	34
to be required to read from slips having constitution printed thereon, to be required to write name in a book	35
Slips.	
of pasteboard with constitution printed thereon to be furnished by state	35
to be placed in a box by registrars	35
to be drawn from box by applicants	35
to be shaken up before another drawing is made	35
registrars to keep a full supply on hand	35
secretary of Commonwealth to furnish and replace them when worn out or lost	35

IV.

An act relative to the Registration of Voters	36
Assessment, applicants for.	
not assessed May 1 must prove residence, etc.	36
moving into a city or town after May 1 must prove residence, etc. to receive certificate showing assessment	37
Assessors.	
to hold day and evening sessions to carry out provisions of act . . .	38
to enter in a book, names, etc., of persons assessed	37
to post conspicuously copy of section 315 and 316, chap. 417, acts 1893 to give certificates of assessment	37
Registration, applicants for.	
to present to registrars certificates showing assessment	36
*Registrars of voters.	
to receive from applicants for registration, tax bills, etc., as evidence of residence	36
post conspicuously copy of section 315 and 316, chap. 417, acts 1894	38

V

An act relative to the Distribution of Circulars and Printed Matter in the Vicinity of Polling Places on Election Day	38
circulation of posters, cards, etc., prohibited at polling places . . .	38
penalty for violation, twenty dollars	38

* In Boston, election commissioners.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 029 809 763 1